

REGIONAL DEMOCRATIC WHIP

COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

CHAIR, COMMERCE, TRADE  
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE INTERNET

CO-CHAIR, CONGRESSIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY  
CAUCUS



**BOBBY L. RUSH**  
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
1<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT, ILLINOIS  
WEBSITE: <http://www.house.gov/rush>

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2416 RAYBURN HOB  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-4372  
(202) 226-0333 (FAX)

CHICAGO OFFICE:  
700-706 E. 79TH STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60619  
(773) 224-6500  
(773) 224-9624 (FAX)

MIDLOTHIAN OFFICE:  
3235 WEST 147TH STREET  
MIDLOTHIAN, ILLINOIS 60445  
(708) 385-9550  
(708) 385-3860 (FAX)

May 19, 2009

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman  
Chairman  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ed Markey  
Chairman  
House Energy and Environment Subcommittee  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Waxman and Chairman Markey:

I would like to thank you both for your hard work and collaborative outreach in drafting the American Clean Energy and Security Act, and I would also like to solicit your commitment in supporting the targeted local worker provision that I have submitted.

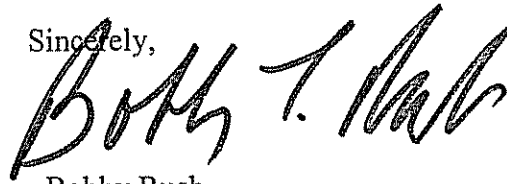
I am supportive of the overall legislation and I have rallied many of my constituents to support this bill through the promise of creating quality new green jobs and employment opportunities. Indeed, I have been referring to this bill as the "Green Jobs Bill" when speaking to constituents in my district. Therefore, it is extremely important that when this bill is enacted, residents in my district, and other low-income communities, see the bill's impact through job growth and economic development opportunities.

I am aware that the Education and Labor Committee has jurisdiction over the local targeted worker provision and they are currently working with my office to draft language that their committee would support and waive to be added to a manager's amendment. In my opinion, supporting the targeted local worker provision is the most effective way to ensure that individuals who have historically been neglected by similar efforts in the past, including minorities, women, returning soldiers, and other "nontraditional" workers are not left behind under the American Clean Energy and Security Act, or Green Jobs bill. The targeted local worker provision would direct the Secretary of Labor to specify that a portion of the hours worked by laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects funded through the Federal Government under this bill, would be performed by local low income and "nontraditional" workers.

This provision does not set specific numbers of hours that must be performed by low income and nontraditional workers, but rather allows the Secretary to determine the levels according to local labor market conditions. It is all of our intent to ensure that the people who need help the most and who have been disproportionately impacted by the current economic downturn are also the ones who are provided direct relief in this legislation. While we have succeeded in addressing this issue through the allocation of allowances, it is imperative that we supplement that effort by ensuring that we bring quality jobs and economic opportunity to our most distressed communities.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bobby T. Rush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bobby" being more prominent and the last name "Rush" following in a similar style. There is a small "T." between the first and last names.

Bobby Rush  
Member of Congress